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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): John R. Pepper  
 Serial No.: 10/643,979  
 For: HOLLOW GUIDE ROD  
 Filed: August 20, 2003  
 Examiner: Ramana, Anuradha  
 Art Unit: 3732  
 Confirmation No.: 4982  
 Customer No.: 27,623



Attorney Docket No.: 0002520USU/2413

**Mail Stop Amendment  
 COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

Dear Sir:

**AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL**

We are enclosing an Amendment in response to the communication dated October 4, 2005 in the above-identified application.

Petition for extension of time pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.137 is hereby made if, and to the extent, required. The fee for this extension of time is calculated to be \$\_\_\_\_\_ to extend the time for filing this response until \_\_\_\_\_.

The fee for any change in number of claims has been calculated as shown below.

CLAIMS AS AMENDED						
	Claims Remaining After Amendment		Highest Number Previously Paid	Present Extra	Rate	
Total Claims	19	Minus	20	0	x \$50.00	\$0.00
Independent Claims	4	Minus	4	0	x \$200.00	\$0.00
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM FEE				x \$360.00 = \$		
TOTAL FEE FOR CLAIM CHANGES				\$0.00		
1/2 FILING FEE FOR SMALL ENTITY				\$N/A		

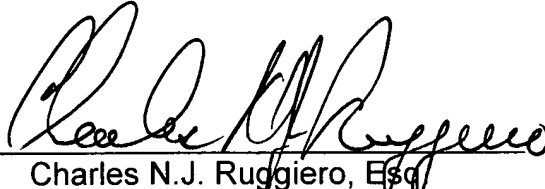
The total fee for this amendment, including claim changes and any extension of time is calculated to be \$ 0.00 .

       A check in the amount of \$ 0.00 is attached.

X The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 and 1.17 which may be required with this communication or during the entire pendency of the application, or credit any overpayment, to **Deposit Account No. 01-0467**. A duplicate copy of this Form is enclosed.

January 4, 2005

Date



Charles N.J. Ruggiero, Esq.

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, ON January 4, 2006.

Marilyn Alexander

NAME



SIGNATURE

1/4/06

DATE



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Attorney Docket No.: 0002520USU/2413

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed October 4, 2005,  
please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of  
claims, which begins on page 2.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6.